PRESS RELEASE

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Gov. Cooper visits Pender County Water Treatment Plant

CURRIE- Gov. Roy Cooper toured the Pender County Water Treatment Plant today with Pender County officials. This visit comes one week after Cooper directed state employees to work on the GenX contamination in the Cape Fear River.

"We are pleased the Governor is staying in contact with us and our regional partners on the issue of GenX in the public water supply," stated George Brown, chairman of the Pender County Board of Commissioners.

"This is a public health issue," state Carolyn Moser, Director of Pender County Health and Human Services. "We are working closely with state and local health agencies to provide our Pender County Utilities customers factual and updated information."

According to the latest Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) testing results, GenX is below the 140 parts per trillion.

"This is similar to one drop in a trillion gallons of water," said Moser. "State Health Risk Assessments do not reflect areas of concern."

"We will remain proactive in our pursuit of safe drinking water for our Pender County residents," said Brown. "We will continue to work in collaboration with our regional, state, and federal agencies to remedy the issue of GenX and other contaminates in the Cape Fear River."

Pender County's water treatment plant is located at 289 Quality Way, in the Pender Commerce Park. The water treatment plant went online in October 2012 and serves approximately 7,000 customers. Prior to the plant operation, Pender County Utilities purchased groundwater from the Town of Wallace.